



PATENTS  
107044-0011

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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MAR 04 2003

GROUP 1700

In Re The Application of: )  
Gerhard Beckmann et al. )  
Serial No.: 09/881,489 )  
Filed: June 14, 2001 )  
For: APPARATUS AND )  
METHOD FOR RAPIDLY )  
INCREASING POWER )  
OUTPUT FROM A DIRECT )  
OXIDATION FUEL CELL )

Examiner: Yuan, Dah Wei D

Art Unit: 1745

Cesari and McKenna, LLP  
88 Black Falcon Avenue  
Boston, MA 02210  
February 26, 2003

"Express Mail" Mailing-Label Number: EL 714 809 636 US

Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**AMENDMENT**

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on January 29, 2003, having a term for reply expiring on February 28, 2003.

**ELECTION IN RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, the invention of Group I, drawn to a direct methanol fuel cell system. The Examiner has further indicated that if invention I is elected, an election of species is also required. Accordingly, Applicants hereby elect Species I-1 defined by the Examiner as

claims 1 and 3-8, drawn to a direct methanol fuel cell system comprising a conduit for delivering methanol to a flow field, a pump and a controller.

Applicants hereby respectfully request that the Examiner enter the following preliminary amendment making amendments to certain elected claims, canceling the non-elected claims, and adding new claims dependent upon elected independent claim 1, prior to the examination thereof.

**In the claims:**

Please cancel claims 2 and 9 through 14.

Please replace claim 1 with the following amended version thereof to incorporate the revisions set forth on the accompanying mark-up page:

- 1 1. (Amended) A direct methanol fuel cell system comprising:  
2 a direct methanol fuel cell including  
3 an anode;  
4 a cathode;  
5 a membrane electrode assembly including a protonically conductive mem-  
6 brane having first and second surfaces on which catalysts are disposed,  
7 anode and cathode diffusion layers disposed, respectively, on said cata-  
8 lysts;  
9 a source of neat or concentrated methanol;  
10 a conduit coupled to said methanol source and to one or more valves for deliver-  
11 ing neat or concentrated methanol to said anode; and  
12 a controller coupled to said one or more valves and, responsive to an increase in  
13 demand for output power from said fuel cell, operating to actuate one or more of said  
14 valves to allow neat or concentrated methanol to be delivered to said anode.

02-28-03

6P/1745



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X Election in Response to Restriction  
Requirement

X Return Postcard